

## Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01  
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 EB-08  
CAB-02 FAA-00 DOTE-00 /114 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:JDAVIDOW:DC  
APPROVED BY: NEA:NAVELIOTES  
NEA/ARP:JCOUNTRYMAAN  
IO/UNP:SESCUDERO  
AF/S:DKPETTERSON  
AF:WBEDMONDSON

-----077214 161900Z /72

P 161810Z DEC 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MUSCAT PRIORITY  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 300532

FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: RH, PDEV, UK

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: APPROACH TO THE OMANIS

1. AS YOU MAY ALREADY BE AWARE, BRITISH EMBASSY HERE HAS  
SUGGESTED THAT YOU JOIN WITH YOUR UK COLLEAGUE IN APPROACH  
TO SULTAN CONCERNING RHODESIA. ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF  
DEMARCHE WOULD BE TO INFORM SULTAN THAT UK INTENDS TO  
PRESENT UN SANCTIONS COMMITTEE A PUBLIC NOTE DETAILING  
THE ACTIVITIES OF "CARGOMAN", AN OMANI CHARTERED AIRLINE  
WHICH, THE UK HAS EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT, IS A FRONT FOR  
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AIR TRANS AFRICA OF SALISBURY, RHODESIA. THIS VIOLATION  
OF UN SANCTIONS RESOLUTIONS, AND IMPLICIT GOVERNMENT  
OF OMAN INVOLVEMENT IN THE ACITIVITES OF "CARGOMAN", HAS  
BEEN RAISED BY UK WITH OMANIS PREVIOUSLY TO NO AVAIL.  
BRITISH PLAN TO TELL SULTAN THAT IF HE IS PREPARED TO  
TAKE STEPS AGAINST "CARGOMAN" WITHIN NEXT MONTH, UK WILL  
NOT PRESENT NOTE TO SANCTIONS COMMITTEE.

2. IN ADDITION TO DISCUSSION OF "CARGOMAN" ACTIVITIES, UK AMBASSADOR WILL RAISE POLITICAL ISSUES RELATING TO RHODESIA. FOLLOWING GENERAL BRIEFING ON CURRENT STATE OF ANGLO-AMERICAN EFFORT, UK WILL SUGGEST THAT OMANIS CEASE CONTINUED CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH SMITH

REGIME, AS EXEMPLIFIED BY VISIT OF SMITH'S FOREIGN MINISTER TO MUSCAT IN EARLY 1977 AND QAIS ZAWAWI'S VISIT TO RHODESIA IN SEPTEMBER. BRITISH WILL ALSO NOTE CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBLE OMANI FINANCING OF ZIMBABWE UNITED PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATION (ZUPO), A CONSERVATIVE TRIBALLY-BASED POLITICAL GROUP WITH CLOSE TIES TO THE SMITH REGIME.

3. WE HAVE TOLD THE BRITISH EMBASSY HERE THAT WHILE WE SUPPORT THE AIMS OF THEIR APPROACH TO THE OMANIS, WE DO NOT FEEL THAT OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF OMAN OR THE SULTAN HIMSELF APPROXIMATES THE UK'S SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP.

4. CONSEQUENTLY, WE HAVE SUGGESTED THAT THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR UNILATERALLY APPROACH THE SULTAN, AFTER WHICH HE SHOULD CONSULT WITH YOU. IF YOU THEN THINK IT ADVISABLE, YOU COULD AT A LATER DATE APPROACH THE OMANI GOVERNMENT AT A LOWER LEVEL, AND PROVIDE A GENERAL BRIEFING ON THE ANGLO-AMERICAN INITIATIVE, MENTIONING IN THE COURSE

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OF YOUR PRESENTATION THE NECESSITY FOR ALL NATIONS TO SUPPORT UN SANCTIONS RESOLUTIONS. YOU COULD KEY YOUR DISCUSSION TO FOREIGN MINISTER ZAWAWI'S REQUEST TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON AT LAST UNGA THAT WE CONTINUE TO KEEP THE OMANIS INFORMED ON AFRICAN DEVELOPMENTS.

5. IF YOU BELIEVE AN APPROACH TO THE GOVERNMENT OF OMAN ALONG THE LINES SUGGESTED ABOVE IS APPROPRIATE, DEPARTMENT WILL PROVIDE TALKING POINTS. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
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